

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 QUITO 02203 060726Z  
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 EB-08 L-03 TRSE-00 NSC-05  
SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /058 W  
-----010531 070319Z /66  
R 052005Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY QUITO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7838  
INFO AMEMBASSY LIMA  
AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 2203

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PBOR, PE, EC  
SUBJECT: ECUADOREAN ACCESS TO AMAZON: SECRETARY'S LETTER  
TO FOREIGN MINISTER.

REF: A) STATE 083864; B) QUITO 2129

1. CHARGE DELIVERED SECRETARY'S LETTER ON ECUADOREAN  
ACCESS TO THE AMAZON TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER ON APRIL 5.  
FONMIN AYALA READ THE LETTER CAREFULLY IN THE PRESENCE  
OF THE CHARGE, COMMENTING UPON CONCLUSION THAT HE BELIEVED  
THE LETTER TO BE A FRIENDLY AND EXTREMELY USEFUL ACTION  
BY THE SECRETARY. HE SAID HE WOULD STUDY THE LETTER  
FURTHER AND REPLY TO THE SECRETARY.

2. FONMIN INQUIRED IF A SIMILAR LETTER HAD BEEN SENT TO  
PERU'S FONMIN DE LA PUENTE AND WAS PLEASED TO KNOW ONE HAD.  
HE STATED THAT THESE TWO LETTERS MIGHT WELL SERVE TO GET  
PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL TALKS BACK ON TRACK, AND SAID  
HE WAS READY TO NAME A TEAM TO GO TO LIMA THAT VERY DAY  
SHOULD THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT INDICATE RECEPTIVITY.

3. AYALA'S ONLY CRITICAL COMMENT ABOUT THE LETTER'S  
CONTENT WAS ITS REFERENCE TO THE DIFFICULTY OF AVOIDING  
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PUBLIC DECLARATIONS IN A YEAR WHEN ELECTORAL CAMPAIGNS  
ARE UNDERWAY. HE EMPHASIZED THAT HIS SPEECH BEFORE THE  
ECUADOREAN INSTITUTE FOR AMAZON COLONIZATION ON FEBRUARY 9.  
WAS MADE IN RESPONSE TO PUBLIC STATEMENTS OF FONMIN  
DE LA PUENTE, AND NOT OUT OF CONSIDERATION OF ECUADOREAN  
POLITICAL SITUATION WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS VERY SECURE  
AND STABLE.

4. COMMENT: AYALA WAS OBVIOUSLY PLEASED BY THE SECRETARY'S LETTER. HIS COMMENT ABOUT HIS PUBLIC STATEMENT NOT BEING MOTIVATED BY THE ECUADOREAN ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN REFLECTS HIS SENSITIVITY TO CRITICISM HE HAS RECEIVED FOR HAVING MADE THE FEBRUARY 9 SPEECH. THE EMBASSY BELIEVES AYALA'S REMARKS THERE WERE IMPRUDENT BUT ALSO THINKS THEY WERE IN RESPONSE TO DE LA PUENTE'S INTERVIEW WITH OIGA AND HIS PRESS STATEMENT, NOT BECAUSE OF THE INTERNAL POLITICAL SITUATION. AS ADMIRAL OLMEDO INDICATED TO EMBOFFS LAST WEEK, (REF B), PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES MAY HAVE ALREADY ACCEPTED GOE REQUEST TO STAY AWAY FROM ISSUE. THIS WAS CONFIRMED TO EMBOFF THE NEXT DAY BY LIBERAL CANDIDATE FRANCISCO HUERTA MONTALVO.  
CORR

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DISPUTE SETTLEMENT, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, AMAZON, INLAND WATERWAYS, WATER BOUNDARIES, RIVERS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978QUITO02203  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** ONLY  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** ONLY  
**Reference:** 78 STATE 83864, 78 QUITO 2129  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 27 jun 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3067723  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ECUADOREAN ACCESS TO AMAZON: SECRETARY'S LETTER TO FOREIGN MINISTER.  
**TAGS:** PBOR, PSDC, PE, EC, US, (VANCE, CYRUS R), (AYALA LASSO, JOSE)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/8e07eeb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
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